

Integrated Community Equipment Service for Derbyshire

Brief Notes of the Children's Equipment Review Group Meeting Held at Medequip, Alfreton Tuesday 13th July

Present:

Dominic Claxton – Contract Manager, ICES Team – **DC (Chair)**
Judy Green – Lead Practitioner, ICES Team – **JG**
Stuart Wheeler – Medequip – **SW**
Kathryn Hughes – Children's Service South Derbyshire - **KH**
Helen Burgess – Children's Service North Derbyshire - **HB**
Marion Cordon – Lead Practitioner Social Care – **MC**
Trisha Bowen

Apologies:

Christine Bould – Equipment Partnership Manager, ICES Team – CB

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were passed as a true reflection of the meeting.

The group agreed that Terms of Reference for the group.

DC highlighted to the group the current financial pressure relating to the service and a discussion took place over potential savings within this element of the service. One of the possibilities is to ask staff, when completing assessments, to ask if parent are prepared to purchase their own equipment should they want more choice than the contract range. It was agreed that this was an area which could be explored.

2. Specials Report

DC presented a report listing all of the non-contract specials purchased since the start of the contract relating to children's equipment which CB had produced. The group discussed the report in length and it was decided that Seating would be the most beneficial area to review first to try to achieve costs savings.

3. Seating

Several key areas were identified within this section of provision.

Number of Chairs per Service User

The group discussed how many seating items should be provided to each service user and it was agreed that a piece of work take place to get

Integrated Community Equipment Service for Derbyshire

continuity across the county and to make sure all relevant parties are working to the same agreement.

Modular Range

It was agreed that an evaluation should take place to identify the most suitable seating systems to be placed on contract. DC explained how the ices contract works and the benefits of using contract products rather than non-contract specials. The group agreed that a day should be planned for the evaluation of different seating options to try to find the most suitable contract product. It was agreed that all of the relevant manufacturers would be invited to demonstrate their product and then the group would use the afternoon to complete their own evaluation. DC agreed to send KH and HB copies of evaluation previously used by the ICES Team.

Action – DC to send evaluations to HB and KH

The group then discussed the benefits to having the chosen contract chair available in modular form for prescribers. This will be included in the evaluation on the day.

HB confirmed that CDC would be able to host the event at:

The Bounce Room
CDC
Wednesday 29th September
9:00am – 16:00pm

The chosen manufacturers were:

Jenx
R82
JCM
Vela Tango
Lecky

It was agreed that SW would liaise with the manufacturers and invite them to the evaluation day.

Action – SW to organise manufacturers

4. Contract Products

The group then reviewed the remaining seating products within the service manual.

Breezie Chair

DC highlighted to the group the huge difference in prices, ranging from £300 - £670 for the Breezie chairs purchased as non-contract items irrespective of what accessories had been ordered. DC also highlighted to the group that

Integrated Community Equipment Service for Derbyshire

there were no price duplicate which is very rare. The group agreed that there should have been some consistency with the pricing of these products due to their only being a limited number of accessories and therefore a limited number of permutations. It was agreed that Medequip would liaise with the manufacturer to get a solid price structure for all permutations to gain continuity and to ensure it is assessment rather than sales driven.

Action – SW to liaise with Manufacturer for solid consistent prices

Jenx Corner Seat

This product is currently being ordered as a special if a flat back with sides is required. The group agreed that Medequip should liaise with the manufacturer for clarification on fitting etc.

Action – SW to liaise with Jenx for clarification

Heathfield Chair

These are often ordered by prescribers as non-contract specials due to Medequip not being able to fit accessories. It was agreed that SW would contact the manufacturer to discuss and feedback at the next meeting.

Action – SW to liaise with manufacturer over the fitting by Medequip of accessories

5. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 15th September
Medequip, Alfreton
9:00am – 12:00pm

DC will inform all participants should Medequip have moved site in the interim period.

The meeting was then closed.